

Important Native Trees & Plants in Volcano

Before clearing land, call VCA for someone to walk with you to identify, tag, and/or rescue native species, and to point out invasives that should be removed. Some people take out everything except for 'ōhi'a and hāpu'u, leaving a bare "understory" – **Do not make this mistake.** The natural complexity of forest ecosystems is important.

Important native plants to protect: 'ōhi'a, hāpu'u, pilo, 'ōlapa, 'a'ali'i, 'akia, 'iliahi, koa, naupaka kuahiwi, 'ōhelo, native lobelias, kāwa'u or Hawaiian holly, kōlea lau nui, 'ōhelo kau lā'au, and pūkiawe.

Learning Native Species Identification

The Volcano Art Center (VAC) offers a free, guided nature walk every month, through old-growth Hawaiian rain forest with many native plants and birds of Volcano. Contact VAC for this and other education opportunities such as native plant ID and propagation: www.volcanoartcenter.org (808) 967-8222

REMOVE these Invasive Plants in Volcano

- Myrica faya tree – completely chokes-out natives
- Tibouchina – densely fills-in any open areas; re-sprouts from stem, cuttings & twigs
- Ginger – rhizomes must be pulled out of soil
- Raspberry & blackberry – sprouts from cut stem
- Strawberry guava or waiawī – chokes-out natives
- Privet
- Palm grass – sprouts from stem and cuttings
- Night-blooming jasmine (cestrum)
- "Spreading" bamboo of any kind spread from roots
- Nasturtium
- Pyracantha - red berries sprout easily See the "Hawaii Ecosystems at Risk" website (<http://hear.org/>) and the VCA website for more detailed info, pictures, and control methods.

Detailed Information on Hawai'i's Invasive Species

For detailed information and pictures on Hawai'i's Invasives, see the "Hawaii Ecosystems at Risk" web site (<http://hear.org/>)

Other Invasive Creatures

Coqui Frogs - Found on plants from nurseries anywhere. Also found in new plastic sheds, building materials, and vehicles. "Quarantine" all plants for 2-3 days in an enclosed area (such as a shower, plastic shed, or other sealed space), check/listen for frogs and eggs, and remove them before planting. They may be frozen "humanely." For help call the Coqui hotline at 443-4023.

Little Fire Ants (LFA) - have a sharp stinging bite. "Quarantine" new plants & place in large saucers filled with water with a little detergent (about 1/2 tsp detergent per gallon). Put a chopstick with peanut butter in the pot for an hour and look for very tiny red ants. Freeze chopstick with ants in zip lock bag & take to the Department of Agriculture for identification.

If ANY LFA's are present, soak plant in a tub, submerging pot overnight. Don't let plant touch anything or ants will escape. Ants that climb up the plant must be sprayed w/mild detergent water.